AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for enabling a user to enter data into an electronic device, the method comprising:

determining one or more characters as being likely to be selected next by the user;

displaying a character strip on a display screen of the electronic device, the character strip comprising three portions:

a first portion comprising functional icons,

a second portion comprising the one or more characters as suggested next characters, and

a third portion comprising a plurality of other symbols, wherein the one or more characters in the second portion and the plurality of other symbols in the third portion are determined and displayed based on a selected functional icon in the first portion;

scrolling through the functional icons, the suggested next characters and a plurality of other symbols in the character strip; and

selecting one or more of the suggested next characters or one or more of the other symbols as data to be entered into the electronic device, or alternatively selecting one of the functional icons to change the suggested next characters and the plurality of other characters displayed in the second and third portions of the character strip.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the one or more characters or symbols selected by the user are displayed on the display screen.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the determining comprises predicting which characters are statistically the most likely to be selected next by the user.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the plurality of other symbols includes one or more icons which are adapted to perform a function on selection by the user.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the scrolling and selecting are carried out on a handheld electronic device comprising a scrolling mechanism and a selection mechanism, wherein the scrolling mechanism and [[and]] the selection mechanism are provided by a cylindrical input mechanism, and scrolling can be achieved by rotating the input mechanism about its axis and selection can be achieved by pushing the input mechanism along its axis.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the plurality of other symbols comprises characters grouped as on an ITU-T keypad.

7. (Previously Presented) An electronic device, comprising:

means for determining one or more characters as being likely to be selected next by a user when the electronic device is in a data entry mode;

a display screen for displaying a character strip as suggested next characters, the character strip comprising three portions:

a first portion comprising functional icons,

a second portion comprising the one or more characters as suggested next characters, and

a third portion comprising a plurality of other symbols, wherein the one or more characters in the second portion and the plurality of other symbols in the third portion are determined and displayed based on a selected functional icon in the first portion;

means for scrolling through the functional icons, the suggested next characters and a plurality of other symbols in the character strip; and

means for selecting one or more of the suggested next characters or one or more other symbols, as data to be entered into the electronic device, or alternatively for selecting one of the functional icons to change the suggested next characters and the plurality of other

characters displayed in the second and third portions of the character strip.

8. (Previously Presented) An electronic device according to claim 7 wherein the electronic device is configured to display the one or more characters or symbols selected on the display screen.

9. (Previously Presented) An electronic device according to claim 7 wherein the means for determining is adapted to predict which characters are statistically the most likely to be selected next by the user and to identify the most likely characters as the suggested next characters.

10. (Previously Presented) An electronic device according to claim 7 wherein the plurality of other symbols includes one or more icons which are adapted to perform a function on selection by the user.

11. (Previously Presented) An electronic device according to claim 7 wherein the means for scrolling and the means for selecting are provided by a cylindrical input mechanism, and scrolling can be achieved by rotating the input mechanism about its axis and selection can be achieved by pushing the input mechanism along its axis.

12. (Original) An electronic device according claim 7 wherein the plurality of other symbols comprises characters grouped as on an ITU-T keypad.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of entering data into an electronic device, comprising:

scrolling through a plurality of groups of symbols on a character strip, the symbols comprising characters grouped as on an ITU-T keypad, so as to indicate one of the groups, the character strip comprising three portions:

a first portion comprising functional icons,

a second portion comprising, for a first symbol to be entered by a user, the plurality of groups comprising suggested next characters of symbols and, for a second symbol

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to be entered following entry of the first symbol by the user, at least one suggested next symbol, and

a third portion comprising a plurality of other groups and symbols, wherein the plurality of the groups in the second portion and the plurality of other groups and symbols in the third portion are determined and displayed based on a selected functional icon in the first portion;

selecting an indicated group of symbols;

selecting one of the symbols of the selected group as data to be entered into the device; and

processing the selected symbol as an entered symbol.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein the selected symbol is selected from the selected group by the selection mechanism.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein the selected symbol is selected from the selected group by a character prediction engine.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according claim 13 wherein the ~~plurality of other groups and symbols includes one or more icons, the~~ electronic device is adapted to perform a function on selection of an icon by [[a]] the user.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 13 wherein the scrolling and the selection are carried out by a cylindrical input mechanism, and scrolling can be achieved by rotating the input mechanism about its axis and selection can be achieved by pushing the input mechanism along its axis.

18. (Currently Amended) An electronic device, comprising:

means for scrolling through a plurality of groups of symbols on a character strip, the symbols comprising characters grouped as on an ITU-T keypad, so as to indicate one of the groups, the character strip comprising three portions:

a first portion comprising functional icons,

a second portion comprising, for a first symbol to be entered by a user, the plurality of groups ~~comprising suggested next characters~~ of symbols and, for a second symbol to be entered following entry of the first symbol by the user, at least one suggested next symbol, and

a third portion comprising a plurality of other groups and symbols, wherein the plurality of the groups in the second portion and the plurality of other groups and symbols in the third portion are determined and displayed based on a selected functional icon in the first portion;

means for selecting one of the indicated groups of symbols;

means for selecting one of the symbols from the selected group as data to be entered into the device; and

means for processing the selected symbols as an entered symbol.

19. (Previously Presented) An electronic device according to claim 18 wherein the means for selecting one of the indicated groups of symbols and means for selecting one of the symbols are provided by the same mechanism.

20. (Previously Presented) An electronic device according to claim 18 wherein the means for selecting one of the symbols is configured to select one of the symbols using a character prediction engine.

21. (Currently Amended) An electronic device according to claim 18 wherein the ~~plurality of other groups and symbols includes one or more icons and the~~ device is adapted to perform a function on selection of an icon by [[a]] the user.

22. (Previously Presented) An electronic device according to claim 18 wherein the means for scrolling and the means for selecting one of the indicated groups of symbols are provided by a cylindrical input mechanism, and scrolling can be achieved by rotating the input mechanism about its axis and selection can be achieved by pushing the input mechanism along its axis.

23. (Previously Presented) An electronic device according to claim 22 wherein the means for selecting one of the symbols is provided by the cylindrical input mechanism.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of entering data into an electronic device, comprising:

scrolling through a plurality of logically arranged groups of symbols on a character strip, so as to indicate one of the groups, the character strip comprising three portions:

a first portion comprising functional icons,

a second portion comprising, for a first symbol to be entered by a user, the plurality of groups ~~comprising suggested next characters~~ of symbols and, for a second symbol to be entered following entry of the first symbol by the user, at least one suggested next symbol, and

a third portion comprising a plurality of other groups and symbols, wherein the plurality of the groups in the second portion and the plurality of other groups and symbols in the third portion are determined and displayed based on a selected functional icon in the first portion;

selecting an indicated group of symbols; and

selecting one of the symbols from the selected group as data to be entered into the device.

25. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 24 further comprising the steps of:

subsequently determining, by a computer program within the device, one or more symbols as being likely to be selected next by [[a]] the user; and

displaying the one or more symbols on a display screen of the electronic device as the at least one suggested next ~~symbols~~ symbol.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 24 wherein the groups of logically arranged symbols are groups of symbols arranged as on an ITU-T keypad.

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 24 wherein ~~the plurality of other~~

~~groups and symbols include~~ one or more icons [[which]] are adapted to perform a function on selection by [[a]] the user.

28. (Currently Amended) An electronic device, comprising:

means for scrolling through a plurality of logically arranged groups of symbols on a character strip so as to indicate one of the groups, the character strip comprising three portions:

a first portion comprising functional icons,

a second portion comprising, for a first symbol to be entered by a user, the plurality of groups ~~comprising suggested next characters~~ of symbols and, for a second symbol to be entered following entry of the first symbol by the user, at least one suggested next symbol, and

a third portion comprising a plurality of other groups and symbols, wherein the plurality of the groups in the second portion and the plurality of other groups and symbols in the third portion are determined and displayed based on a selected functional icon in the first portion;

means for selecting one of the indicated groups of symbols; and

means for selecting one of the symbols from the selected group as data to be entered into the device.

29. (Currently Amended) An electronic device according to claim 28 further comprising:

means for determining one or more symbols as being likely to be selected next by the user; and

a display screen for displaying the one or more symbols as the at least one suggested next ~~symbols~~ symbol.

30. (Original) An electronic device according to claim 28 wherein the groups of logically arranged symbols are arranged as on an ITU-T keypad.

31. (Previously Presented) An electronic device according claim 28 wherein the means for

selecting one of the indicated groups of symbols and means for selecting one of the symbols are provided by the same mechanism.

32. (Previously Presented) An electronic device according to claim 28 wherein the means for selecting one of the symbols is configured to select one of the symbols using a character prediction engine.

33. (Currently Amended) An electronic device according to claim 28 wherein the ~~plurality of other groups and symbols include~~ one or more icons [[which]] are adapted to perform a function on selection by [[a]] the user.